

Teaching Farm Families How To Farm--And Live --Is Government Objective

ENTERPRISE, Ala.—Most Alabama farm families are familiar with the "yardstick" program of the TVA in North Alabama but few perhaps have heard that another "yardstick" program of somewhat different nature is going forward in South Alabama. Unlike the electric power "yardstick" program, that 65 per cent of the South Alabama program aims at measuring the benefits that may be obtained by teaching farm families how to farm--and how to live.

Another federal agency, the Resettlement Administration, is carrying forward this Coffee County project. And a native of neighboring Geneva County, W. L. McArthur, Auburn-trained and with experience in modern farming practices, heads the county-wide program as project manager.

"To start at the beginning," Mr. McArthur said, "it might be well to point out that Coffee County was perhaps the hardest hit of any section of the State. Seventy per cent of the farmers in the county were tenants and the average schooling, counting even the city population, was only three and one-half years. Such a setup was certain to bring distress when the market for cash crops collapsed. During the depression the Federal Land Bank obtained through foreclosure some 60,000 acres of Coffee County land. The old Alabama Relief Administration took up the task of aiding destitute farmers in Coffee County and laid the groundwork for the present program of the Resettlement Administration. After the RA took charge in July, 1936, it was learned that only about 20,000 acres of the total were suitable for profitable farming. The remainder is marginal or sub-marginal.

"In the short time since the program was begun, we have constructed, remodeled or have under way 149 houses for farm families. Most of these units are on two-horse farms of about 120 acres, about half under cultivation. A few one-horse farms are included and some larger farms. We are aiming at eventually building houses that will sell around the \$1,000 mark.

"Let me emphasize," Mr. McArthur said, "that the RA is not building fine homes, filling them with expensive furnishings and then turning them over to clients. The land still all belongs to the government and the clients merely rent them. And the homes being built are comfortable but not pretentious. Eventually some plan may be worked out for the farmers who make good to buy their places, but this far we are just trying to find out what these farmers can do with their help, education and guidance.

"Farmers accepted as clients by the RA must prove themselves worthy of help or they do not last long with us. We expect them to show some inclination toward improving the places, to plant vegetable gardens, to take care of their property, to raise chickens, to develop hog pastures and raise hogs, and to plan more than one acre of corn crop.

"After a farmer is accepted as a client by the RA, he has the privilege of borrowing money to get his start. Last year we cannot get an average of about \$300 to \$500 farmers with which they bought work stock, implements or fertilizer. The best evidence that our program is succeeding, even after such a short trial, is that 88 per cent of these loans were repaid. The total repaid would have been perhaps 95 per cent had we not allowed some of the farmers to carry over part of their loans and thus reduce the amount they needed to borrow this year. This

year, with more clients on our units, we have made 112 loans, but the total loaned is considerably less than last year. Some of those who borrowed last year made enough to pay back their loans and finance themselves the second year.

Through the efforts of Mr. McArthur, a smoothly working cooperative program for aiding Coffee County farmers has been worked out, with four other agencies lending their assistance in the coordinated program. The Alabama Extension Service, through Hugh D. Sexton, county agent, and Miss Marie B. Matthews, home demonstration agent; Health Officer H. T. Donovan, the Coffee County Board of Education, and the vocational agriculture and home economics division of the State Department of Education are working with the RA in the Coffee County project. Once a month representatives of all cooperating agencies meet to discuss progress and also give them funds to provide for an additional number of needy aged people. For example, one county which closes its almshouses and made the almshouse a place for the county department to provide for the aged persons removed from the almshouses and also gave them funds to provide for an additional number of needy aged people. For example, one county which closes its almshouses and made the almshouse a place for the county department to provide for the aged persons removed from the almshouses and also gave them funds to provide for an additional number of needy aged people.

Through the state department of Education, boys and girls are learning how to be better farmers and better citizens than their parents. And health and sanitation are being promoted through the cooperation of the county health officer.

This Summer the RA expects to establish 10 canning plants in rural schools where farm women will be added in canning vegetables and fruits to carry forward their "live-at-home" program. Also proposed for the county are two model high schools to be built by the RA and a county educational and health center to be located at Enterprise.

The objective of the Coffee County program is to try to help the man operating the farm to do a little better by himself and his family," Mr. McArthur said. "This, of course, means that the attitude of the man must be favorable toward what we are trying to do. We have had some few already that have been rank failures, but the big majority of those we have tried to help indicate by their response that they are anxious to learn how to improve their lot."

DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION NOW

The Clipper has on its mailing list a number of subscribers whose time will be out during this month, and all of these will be cut off unless they receive your renewal within the next few days. Look at the label and it will tell when your time expires.

All subscriptions are cash in advance. If you cannot continue the paper unless you come in and pay to the rear of the room, where they were served delicious punch, cookies and frosted cake from a table beautifully decorated with mountain laurel and pink rosebuds. The club colors of pink and green were carried out in all the decorations. Mrs. J. Q. English and Mrs. H. Jeter, assisted by other club members, served.

Miss Ruth Warren and Miss Martin served a delicious course.

METHODIST W. M. S. MET MONDAY AFTERNOON.

The Methodist Missionary Society met for Bible Study at the church Monday afternoon at 3:30 with Mrs. D. C. Marley, the president, presiding.

The meeting was opened with a song and followed with sentences of prayer.

Minutes were read by the secretary, Mrs. Arden Bradley.

During a short business period, plans were discussed and made for buying several articles for the Parsonage.

Mrs. W. J. Hughes interestingly taught the Bible Study lesson from First Kings.

The meeting was dismissed with the watchword.

Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Bryan were business visitors to Dothan last Wednesday.

Miss Emma Banks of Opp spent the week-end in Elba with relatives.

Mrs. James Folsom has been the guest of her parents, Judge and Mrs. J. A. Carney, for several days.

Medames J. D. Whitman, J. M. Bonneau, Gethel Pinkard and Misses Catherine Rushing and Miriam Russ were visitors to Montgomery Friday.

SUNDAY NIGHT SHOWS

Beginning May 9, we will run Sunday Night Shows, starting at 8:45. Conflict with Church services will be strictly avoided.

NEW ELBA THEATRE

Guaranteed Tires

Few automobile tires are guaranteed now, most manufacturers having withdrawn all guarantees. But we are pleased to announce that WE STILL HAVE A LINE THAT IS GUARANTEED.

If you are contemplating the purchase of tires it will pay you to see us and let us tell you more about our ACME and GATES Tires, and the guarantee that we give with each and every one.

ELBA OIL COMPANY

24-HOUR SERVICE.

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THE ELBA CLIPPER

ELBA, ALABAMA, THURSDAY, MAY 6, 1937

ONE DEAD, CROP LOSS ONE MILLION, RESULT OF RAINS

BAY MINETTE, Ala.—One person was dead, the early Irish potato crop suffered an estimated \$1,000,000 loss, and extensive damage was done to highways as torrential rainstorms swept Baldwin County over the week-end.

Henry Zarba, 17-year-old farm worker, drowned when a truck he was driving overturned near Bannockburn and was swept into a ditch.

In addition to the potatoes, other crops suffered heavy losses as a result of the rains that registered 8.18 inches during Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Throughout the county, where 18,000 acres of potatoes are planted and are ready for the harvest, vines were stripped, the tubers were washed up on the ground, water was standing in the fields and the earth was soaked to such an extent that many feared the crop would rot before farm hands can resume digging.

Potato growers predicted bright sunshine would badly blister the plants after the rain.

The water washed out a bridge on U. S. Highway No. 90, between Mobile and Loxley, where 800 feet of the same highway, between Robertsdale and Pensacola, Fla., were damaged.

The road between the Bay Bridge head and Point Clear on the eastern shore of Mobile Bay was washed out in many places.

COUNTIES EXEMPTED FROM TWO PER CENT SALES TAX

MONTGOMERY.—Purchases of materials and supplies by county governing bodies, sales of all types of magazines and periodicals, and printing service, including bookbinding, engraving and embossing, were held to be exempt from the two per cent sales tax in two county rulings last week.

The Alabama Supreme Court Thursday held that magazines are not taxable under provisions of the law, while the other rulings were made by Judge J. H. Jones in Montgomery circuit court. In each case, it was pointed out, the law was entirely friendly to both the State Tax Commission and the complainants being equally desirous that the luxury tax act enacted by the Legislature early this year be clarified for the benefit of all concerned.

Prior to Judge Jones' decision, Attorney General Albert A. Carmichael had issued a ruling declaring that the law was the Legislature's intent that purchases by counties be exempt, as well as those by the State and cities.

BUSINESS WOMEN'S CIRCLE MET MONDAY EVENING

The Business and Professional Women's Circle of the Baptist Missionary Society held an interesting and profitable meeting on Monday evening, May 3rd, in the home of Mrs. R. L. Martin, on Yelverton Street, for a mission program.

In the absence of the president, Mrs. J. A. Timmerman, no business was transacted. The meeting opened with a song and prayer by Mrs. Baxter Bryan.

Miss Lucile Maddox was leader and after giving the devotional, she led the discussion of the subject, "The Slave—The Coming Race." "The Slave—The Coming Race," Mrs. Mary Alice May.

"Baptists Among Europeans," Mrs. Mary Baxter Bryan.

"Nature of Our Foreign Missions Work in Jugo-Slavia," Miss Nona Bullock.

"American Slaves and Our Work Among Them," Miss Zedie Rowe.

Miss Carrie Vaughn dismissed the meeting with prayer.

Miss Ruth Warren and Miss Martin were guests of the Circle. Following the program, Mrs. Martin served a delicious course.

SALE ON FOUNTAIN PENS

In an advertisement in this issue Elba Drug Company announces a one-day sale of Fountain Pens to be held Saturday, May 8. The sale is for one day only and by clipping the certificate you may purchase one of the pens for only 50c.

Mrs. W. B. Morgan, Mrs. Gus Young, Miss Sallie Collier and Miss Elizabeth Young visited in Montgomery last Friday.

COFFEE COUNTY SUMMARY FOR MONTH OF APRIL

Below is a summary of the county agent's report for April, 1937:

Steadfast: The Agent worked 14 1/2 days in the field and 11 1/2 days in the office; 2,470 persons called by the two offices for information; 203 letters were written and 4,792 copies were sent out in the county. Nineteen miscellaneous meetings were held with 2,882 persons attending. Sixty-five telephone calls were received. The Agent travelled 828 miles on official business.

1936 Agricultural Soil Conservation Program: During the month the Agent's office received and delivered 842 copies of information; \$57,647.60. This makes a total of 3,242 checks for \$207,894.74 received on this program thus far. Additional checks are yet to be received.

1937 Agricultural Soil Conservation Program: During the month the Agent and the Assistant in Soil Conservation held 13 community meetings for the purpose of assisting farmers in signing 1937 "Work Sheets." At these meetings approximately 75 per cent of the farmers in the county were covered by "Work Sheets." Farmers are available for all farmers who desire to sign and all farmers have been notified of the arrangements made to assist them in signing.

The Agent and Assistant in Soil Conservation assisted the Board of Directors in organizing the Coffee County Agricultural Conservation Association. The officers of the Association are:

R. E. Gunter—President and Chairman of County Committee.

Rev. A. Lowry—Vice-President and Member of County Committee.

J. H. Clark—Third Member of County Committee.

Fred L. Donaldson—Assistant Secretary and Treasurer.

The reporting agent, according to the regulations furnished, will act as Secretary of the Association.

The Agent, together with the Assistant, assisted the Board of Directors in drawing up a budget to take care of the expenses incurred by the Association until June 30, 1937.

Cooperative Hog Sales: The Agent held four Cooperative Hog Sales during the month. A summary of these sales is as follows:

At Elba, 162 hogs weighing 22,330 pounds sold for \$45, bringing a total of \$1,610.57.

At Enterprise, 108 head weighing 16,525 pounds were sold for \$75, bringing a total of \$1,280.85.

At Elba, 122 head weighing 19,176 pounds sold for \$45, bringing a total of \$1,423.94.

At Enterprise, 52 head weighing 7,825 pounds were sold for \$36, bringing a total of \$387.85.

At Elba, 544 head weighing 66,059 pounds sold for \$4,012.25.

Miscellaneous: During the month the Agent attended the Pig Stock Show at Dothan, where 11 4-H Club boys of this county had entries. This County's 4-H Club boys made a creditable showing at this show. One of our boys showed the reserve grand champion and the county's exhibit of calves won second place. Our 4-H Club boys, under the direction of Mr. J. E. (George) Washington, are doing splendid club work.

The Agent's office is anxious to render the farmers of the county the best service possible. Suggestions will be appreciated at any time.

SINGING CONVENTION

The Covington County Progressive Singing Convention will convene next Sunday, May 9, in the new brick school building at Dothan, 16 miles northeast of Andalusia, on the Three North road. You are invited to come and bring your song books and lunch.

W. O. BOZEMAN, Chmn.

Mr. and Mrs. M. R. Rowe and son, Charles Lewis, Mrs. S. N. Rowe and Miss Zedie Rowe were visitors to Andalusia Sunday.

Visitors to Montgomery last Friday.

WAR CLUB MEETING

The Zoar Home Demonstration Club met at the home of Mrs. Alice Rushing April 27th for its regular monthly meeting. The club was called by Mrs. Foy Bryan and the Sam Kelley read the minutes. Twelve members were present.

Miss Marie B. Matthews was present for her first visit to this club. She was in charge of the demonstration and discussed ways of baking potatoes on half-shell, how to make white sauce, and scalloped cabbage.

After singing a few songs the meeting was closed. The next meeting will be held in the home of Mrs. Robinson. Mrs. Sam Kelley is the champion biscuit maker in the Zoar Club.

Mrs. Johnny Marler, Reporter.

Friends of Miss Annie Laurie Bulard will regret to learn that she is ill at her home, suffering from an attack of malaria fever.

DORSEY SEZ:

FOR PLEASANT SUMMER DRIVING

Your motor should be given a thorough tuning-up and adjusting. With all adjustments properly made, you will enjoy your Summer motoring whether it be a long or short trip.

Our repair department is equipped with modern devices and our mechanics are expertly trained for any and all work. Drive by or call us and we will give you up for pleasant motoring.

PHONE 146

Sales—CHEVROLET—Service

County Agent's Column

By HUGH D. SEXTON
County Agent

NEW PROGRAM IS PLANNED BY EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

MONTGOMERY, May 4.—The executive committee of the Alabama Education Association today announced an 18-point "education platform" for the four years, 1938 to 1942.

Chief point in the platform is a campaign to have State and county education superintendents appointed by State and county boards of education instead of being elected by popular vote.

The platform was adopted at a meeting of the committee, at which S. M. Tharpe, Baldwin County superintendent, was elected to succeed Paul H. Munro, who has been appointed superintendent of schools at Columbus, Ga.

In addition to seeking the appointment of superintendents, the platform will ask that State teachers be paid for the retirement of teachers in holding a position be protected by tenure laws, and that indelicate contracts with teachers be abolished.

The program will also work for higher qualifications for high school teachers and superintendents, and for the association.

It will demand a scientific reorganization of tax laws and will urge a continuation of the policy of car-marking revenue for school funds.

The program will oppose extension of homestead exemptions to include county and local levies, and will request an annual adjustment of school financial support on the basis of increased or decreased attendance.

Grove said the program would be under the supervision of E. D. Norton, Covington County superintendent. Miss Louise Barnes of Birmingham is chairman of the committee.

INTERESTING PLAY GIVEN AT P. T. A. MEETING

The P. T. A. of the Elba school held an interesting meeting at the school auditorium on Tuesday afternoon, April 27th, when a delightful program was given by the pupils of the fifth grade, under the direction of Mrs. Greil Tilman.

The opening number was "America," sung by the assembly.

The devotional was given by Sign. J. C. Dixon.

The subject of the program, "Citizenship," was treated in a splendid play, "The Masquerade," the theme of which was "Cooperativeness." The following cast, including several fourth grade pupils, presented the play:

Mr. Clayton—Fred Young.

Mrs. Clayton—Carolyn English.

Mary, their daughter—Peggy Blue.

Madame Promptness—Marjorie Murphree.

Angela Courtney—Ruth Windham.

Aunt Honesty—Claudine Fleming.

Uncle Dependableness—Edwin Cooper.

Doctor Orderliness—John Revel Crook.

Professor Indifference—Kenneth Talbot.

Professor Thirt—Frank Young.

Professor Industry—Billy Farr.

Professor Self-Reliance—William Harrison.

Dr. Cooperativeness—George Lantz Collier.

Vera King gave the introduction to the play and the setting, the words of Mr. Bowers also were active service during the war, but his eyes are still good. He made the trip as chauffeur.

During the business session, the attendance prize was awarded the fifth grade, taught by Mrs. Greil Tilman, and the prize of fifty cents in cash was awarded to Ida Will Lee, a fourth grade pupil of Miss Kayron Campbell, as winner in the membership contest.

MOOSE CLUB MEETING

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Sales—CHEVROLET—Service

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PHONE 146

Sales—CHEVROLET—Service

About People and Things By C. B. McDowell

AMUSEMENT PARK.—W. M. Brannon and Leroy Rowell are starting the construction of a large amusement building on high ground, east of the swimming pool. The building is to be 24,000 feet, with basement under half of the building, to be used as dressing rooms for bathers. The old bathhouse is being torn down. A bridge will lead from the new building to the swimming pool. A double tennis court is being built just south of the Pea River bridge and nears Brannon and Rowell announce that other improvements are to be made, so as to afford Elba a commodious amusement park.

SLOW BUT SURE.—County Sanitary Inspector R. M. Drew reports that his persistent efforts to get homes outside the sewer boundaries to install sanitary closets are bearing fruit. Many pit closets are being installed in Elba, Enterprise, New Brockton, Kinston and other parts of the county. His anti-fly, mosquito and rat campaign is also showing fine results.

TRAFFIC LIGHT.—The City Council, at its regular monthly meeting Monday night, voted to install a traffic light at the southeast corner of the square, after which the one-way traffic regulations which have been in force for several months will be discarded. Some of Elba's merchants, especially those doing business on the south side of the square, have been complaining that the one-way system was injurious to their business. Money to purchase the new traffic light has been raised by public subscription. It is reported that the cost of operating the light will be about \$85 a year. This is a dangerous corner and the installation of a traffic light is thought to be a wise move.

DISTRICT CONFERENCE.—A number of Elba Methodists are planning to attend the district conference which is to be held at Union Springs today (Thursday).

HOG SALE.—Another hog sale is to be held at Elba's stockyards on Friday of this week. At Elba, last sale, three weeks ago, hogs brought the highest prices in many months, \$5.85 per cwt. being paid for No. 1s. Hog prices in Montgomery are also high. D. C. Crook has held about steady during the past three weeks, so it is probable that good prices will be paid at Friday's sale.

REV. J. A. JONES.—Pastor W. J. Hughes preached Sunday night at the Chaika Methodist Church. Rev. J. A. Jones occupied the pulpit of the Elba Methodist Church and delivered an able sermon.

EXAMINATIONS.—R. R. Borden, Hollis Harrison and F. H. Talbot left Monday for Mobile and Birmingham. Mr. Harrison went to Mobile to undergo a Government examination of similar nature. Mr. Harrison lost an eye about a year ago while working as a carpenter for the Resettlement Administration. Mr. Talbot has been partially blind since his service during the World War. Mr. Borden also saw active service during the war, but his eyes are still good. He made the trip as chauffeur.

MAMMOTH EGG.—W. King of West Elba brought a Rhode Island Red hen egg to The Clipper office Tuesday afternoon that was the largest we have seen, at least for a long time. It measured 9 1/2 inches around the long way and 6 1/2 inches around the middle. It weighed over six ounces, which is approximately three times the weight of an average Rhode Island Red egg. A number of persons who saw it remarked that it was the largest hen egg they ever saw.

MOORE DAMAGE.—Recent heavy rains are reported to have done further damage to roads and highways in Coffee County. The county commissioners are doing everything within their power to alleviate the situation, but it is a herculean job. L. E. Gibbons, State Highway supervisor, reports that the 7 1/2 mile stretch of the Elba-Brantley highway was practically ready to receive the first application of oil and slag, but the rains washed the graded road.

(Continued on page four)

NO FISH.—W. B. Perdue, Mr. and Mrs. B. E. Perdue, Albert Perdue and Billie Perdue returned Sunday afternoon from a four-day fishing trip in the vicinity of Panama City, Fla. The weather was so stormy that the only fish they caught were silver hogs, but they report an enjoyable trip, notwithstanding.

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